

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 140766
ORIGIN ARA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/CAR:DPIERCE:KC

APPROVED BY: ARA/CAR:DPIERCE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140766

FOR DON TICE

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRIDGETOWN 1403 ACTION SECSTATE INFO SECDEF
CINCLANT CNO JUN 16, 1977

QTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1403

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, BB

SUBJ: U.S.NAVAL FACILITY IN BARBADOS

1. IN STATEMENT AT AIRPORT UPON RETURN FROM COMMONWEALTH
CONFERENCE JUNE 14, WHICH CARRIED ON TV NEXT DAY
EXTAFFMIN HENRY FORDE DEALT IN PASSING
WITH SUBJECT OF US NAVAL FACILITY IN BARBADOS. HE STATED
FIRST OBSTACLE TO RENEWAL OF LEASE, IN WHICH USG HAD IN-
DICATED INTEREST, HAD BEEN OVERCOME WITH AGREEMENT HE HAD
OBTAINED WHILE IN LONDON THAT HMG WOULD SUBMIT TO PARLIAMENT
ENABLING LEGISLATION TO EFFECT TRANSFER OF PROPERTY ON
WHICH FACILITY LOCATED FROM BRITISH ADMIRALTY TO GOB. HE
ALSO NOTED THAT "PREPARATORY -- NOT PRELIMINARY -- DISCUS-
SIONS" HAD BEEN HELD WITH USG REPS.

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2. COMMENT: ACTING BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHN PHILIP
HAS CONFIRMED TO ME THAT HMG HAS, IN FACT, AGREED TO TRANSFER.
FORDE'S REMARKS ARE INTERESTING NOT ONLY FOR WHAT HE
SAID BUT ALSO FOR WHAT HE DID NOT SAY. BY EMPHASIZING
EXPLORATORY NATURE OF MAY TALKS HERE, HE DOWNPLAYED THEIR
SIGNIFICANCE AND, IN EFFECT, LEFT WAY OPEN FOR A NEW START.
AT SAME TIME, HE MADE NO MENTION OF GOB INTENTION OF SEEKING

RETROACTIVE COMPENSATION AND TENOR OF REMARKS AS A WHOLE
CLEARLY IMPLY GOB WILLINGNESS TO HAVE FACILITY CONTINUE
IN OPERATION. END COMMENT. SIMMS UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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